



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE**  
Alister F. Martin, MD, MPP  
*Commissioner*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 2, 2026

**TO REDUCE RISK OF WEST NILE VIRUS, NYC HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO CONDUCT  
MOSQUITO CONTROL IN THE BRONX, BROOKLYN, QUEENS, AND STATEN ISLAND**

*Department to Apply Larvicide by Helicopter July 7, 8, and 9, Weather Permitting*

*EPA-Approved Treatment Targets Mosquito Larvae With Minimal Impact on People, Pets,  
and Wildlife*

**NEW YORK, NY** — To reduce mosquito activity and the risk of West Nile virus, the NYC Health Department [will conduct aerial larviciding treatment](#) from Tuesday, July 7, to Thursday, July 9, treating nonresidential marshes and wetland areas of the Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, and Staten Island between the hours of 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. Due to their size, dense vegetation, and limited accessibility, these areas will be treated using a low-flying helicopter. In the event of inclement weather, treatment will be delayed until July 10, 13, and 14 during the same hours.

The NYC Health Department conducts ongoing mosquito surveillance throughout the five boroughs and monitors mosquitoes for West Nile virus and other mosquito-borne diseases. Periods of warm weather, rainfall, and high tides can create ideal breeding conditions for mosquitoes in marshes and wetlands, which are active in New York City from approximately April to October. To date, no human cases of West Nile virus have been reported in New York City this year. However, current environmental conditions in the targeted treatment areas are expected to support increased mosquito breeding, prompting the agency to conduct its second treatment of the year.

The NYC Health Department will apply larvicide that targets mosquito larvae before they mature into biting adult mosquitoes. The product used for this treatment, VectoBac GS, contains naturally occurring bacteria that specifically target mosquito larvae. This product is approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and is used as part of the NYC Health Department's integrated mosquito management program. It has minimal impact on people, pets, fish, birds, and other wildlife when applied according to label directions.

New Yorkers are encouraged to mosquito-proof their homes and take precautions when spending time outdoors. The most effective way to control mosquitoes is to eliminate standing water where they breed. Other recommendations to reduce exposure to mosquitoes include:

- Use an EPA-registered insect repellent containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, or oil of lemon eucalyptus (not recommended for children younger than 3 years).
- Make sure windows have properly fitted screens and repair any tears or holes.
- Eliminate standing water on your property and dispose of containers that collect water.
- Keep roof gutters clean and draining properly.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, outdoor saunas, and hot tubs. Keep them covered when not in use.
- Drain water that collects on pool covers.
- When possible, wear long sleeves and long pants when outdoors in areas with high mosquito activity.
- Report standing water by **calling 311**.

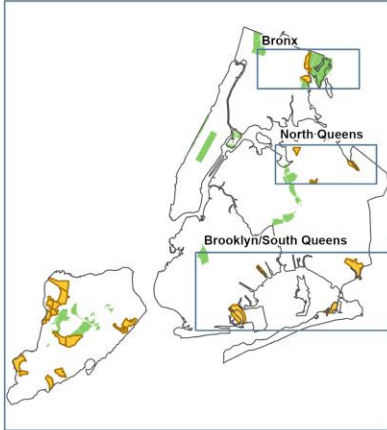
For more information about West Nile virus and mosquito prevention, visit [Mosquito Control](#) or **call 311**.



## Planned Larviciding Application

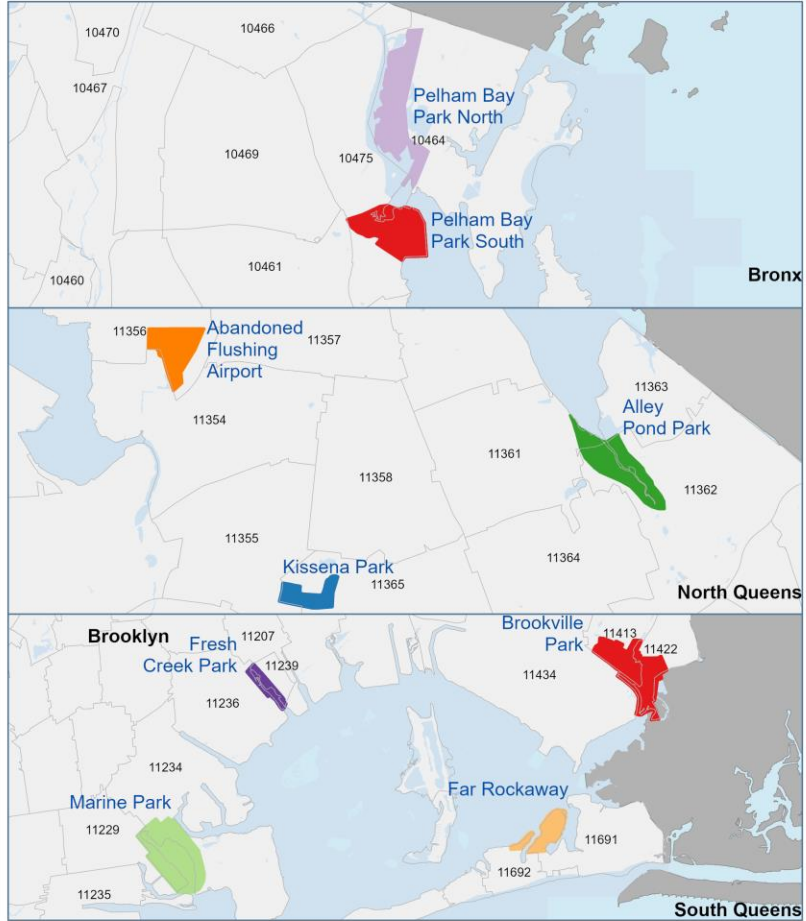
Bronx, Brooklyn and Queens  
July 7, 8 and 9, 2026

NYC Dept of Health and Mental Hygiene



For more information please visit:  
<http://www.nyc.gov/health/wnv>

*This map, and the application area it depicts, is an approximation and should not be relied on as a specific description of the area to be treated.*

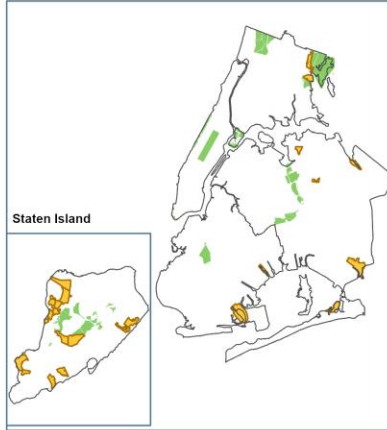




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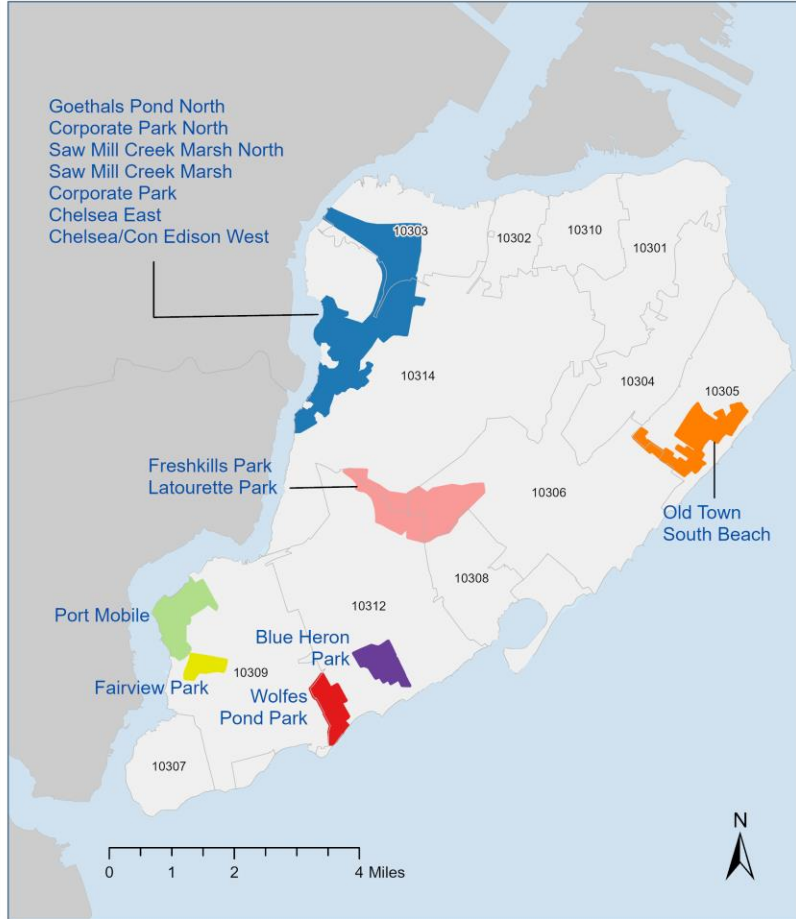
Staten Island  
July 7, 8 and 9, 2026

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